

forcibly push the House Chaplain Father Conroy to resign.

If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: "nay" on rollcall vote 166.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for the following votes because I chose to remain in my congressional district in Miami for an important district event.

Had I been present, I would have voted: "No" on rollcall Vote No. 162, "no" on rollcall Vote No. 163, "yes" on rollcall Vote No. 164, "yes" on rollcall Vote No. 165, and "no" on rollcall Vote No. 166.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, during the week of Monday, April 23, 2018, I missed rollcall votes 148–166. Had I been present for these recorded votes, I would have voted as listed below: Rollcall Vote 148: "aye," rollcall Vote 149: "aye," rollcall Vote 150: "nay," rollcall Vote 151: "nay," rollcall Vote 152: "aye," rollcall Vote 153: "nay," rollcall Vote 154: "aye," rollcall Vote 155: "aye," rollcall Vote 156: "nay," rollcall Vote 157: "nay," rollcall Vote 158: "nay," rollcall Vote 159: "nay," rollcall Vote 160: "aye," rollcall Vote 161: "aye," rollcall Vote 162: "nay," rollcall Vote 163: "nay," rollcall Vote 164: "aye," rollcall Vote 165: "aye," and rollcall Vote 166: "nay."

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the question on agreeing to the Speaker's approval of the Journal, which the Chair will put de novo.

The question is on the Speaker's approval of the Journal.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H. RES. 774

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to remove my name as a cosponsor from H. Res. 774.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

ADJOURNMENT FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2018, TO TUESDAY, MAY 1, 2018

Mr. FRANCIS ROONEY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 1, 2018.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

AUTHORIZING THE CLERK TO MAKE CORRECTIONS IN ENGROSSMENT OF H.R. 4, FAA REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that

the Clerk be authorized to make technical corrections in the engrossment of H.R. 4, to include corrections in spelling, punctuation, section numbering and cross-referencing, and the insertion of appropriate headings.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

NORTH KOREA WANTS A UNIFIED COMMUNIST KOREAN PENINSULA

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, for generations, the Korean war has continued with no feasible end in sight.

Today, North and South Korea supposedly reached a peace agreement, which includes a denuclearized peninsula, but the definition of denuclearization is not defined in the agreement.

To the North, denuclearization only means the U.S. nuclear umbrella to protect South Korea will end. To the South and to the U.S., this means North Korea will denuclearize.

This is not the first time little Kim has made agreements only to break them. And Kim's delusional idea of a unified Korea is a unified communist Korean Peninsula with him in charge, standing against the West.

For over 6 decades, the Kim regime has actively pursued nuclear and ballistic weapons, terrorizing anyone who opposes the rogue regime.

President Trump's hardball tactics have had their intended insurmountable effect.

We must proceed with caution and stand with our allies to ensure that this agreement is not merely a ploy to serve North Korea's nefarious, totalitarian, aggressive interests.

And that is just the way it is.

FAA REAUTHORIZATION

(Ms. BASS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. BASS. The FAA SoCal Metroplex project has dramatically changed flight paths into Los Angeles International Airport, effectively cramming traffic from a six-lane highway in the sky into a single lane.

Constituents in my district now have low-altitude flights over their heads, sometimes every 3 minutes. Parents have reported that aircraft noise wakes up their children, movie studios in my district report that the noise has made it very difficult to film outdoors on their lots, which poses a major economic threat.

Guided by my constituents, I proposed and supported over 30 amendments to the FAA reauthorization. I am glad to report that a terminal sequencing spacing amendment that was crafted specifically by constituents in

my district passed yesterday. However, more needs to be done, and I will continue to urge this body to do more to fix this problem.

The constant barrage of noise has real measurable costs in disrupted sleep, lost property values, and business disruption for thousands of people in my district. We cannot allow airline efficiency to come at the sacrifice of the health and well-being of those on the ground.

RECOGNIZING TODD UNGERECHT

(Mr. NEWHOUSE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. NEWHOUSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to thank one of the House's own and a great public servant. Todd Ungerecht is a proud son of Pasco, Washington, and has given this Nation over 20 years of tireless public service.

Prior to his most recent service with the House Natural Resources Committee as deputy staff director to Chairman ROB BISHOP, Todd served the United States Senate for Washington's former U.S. Senator Slade Gorton, for the George W. Bush administration as an appointee with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and for former chairman of the House Natural Resources Committee Doc Hastings.

A proud Gonzaga University undergraduate and law school graduate, Todd is a man of family, of faith, and of public service. He represents the quintessential staffer, working diligently behind the scenes, never looking for credit, never seeking the limelight. Todd is a humble public servant, who places the highest value on good public policy.

As Todd retires from the House, and his wife, Magda; and their two children, Alexa and Evan, head west, we send them our sincere gratitude and warmest wishes.

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE NATION REGARDING EDUCATION

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this is an open letter to the Nation regarding education or the education of our children.

I represent the 18th Congressional District and have at least seven school districts, and certainly aware of the school districts throughout the State of Texas and also what school districts are facing across the Nation to pay teachers, most of all to educate our children.

The Houston Independent School District and its board are attempting and, I believe, are committed to educating our children. However, at this present stage, we have at least ten schools with an IR status, a diminished status, with the potential of being closed by the State of Texas.

I will be going home to rally the community, because right now today is Friday, and children are learning in our schools. Why punish them, make them the victims of the lack of resources, credentialed teachers, and the lack of a plan that all of us can agree with?

I happen to have agreed with the initial step to at least solve a problem temporarily, but we know that a temporary solution is not the best.

We need to be able to have those children meet the basic test standards, but, more importantly, we have to reflect on changing these—

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ARRINGTON). The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Very tough test standards that don't test the child's knowledge. So—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has again expired.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, to that school district, to the city of Houston—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

HONORING MAJOR STEPHEN DEL BAGNO

(Mr. KNIGHT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KNIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of our fallen heroes, Major Stephen Del Bagno of the United States Air Force Air Demonstration Squadron, more commonly known as the Thunderbirds, who lost his life this past month.

Major Del Bagno came from my district, from Valencia, California, and exemplified the skill and professionalism that we expect from our airmen.

Major Del Bagno was the very first F-35 pilot to join the ranks of the Thunderbird squadron.

Tragically, Stephen Del Bagno lost his life earlier this month during a training exercise at the Nevada Test and Training Range. While he is no longer with us, his legacy continues in the hearts and minds of future aviators he inspired.

I sat with my wife at his funeral a few weeks back and I watched the missing man formation of F-35s and F-16s, and I listened to his father and his teammates talk about Major Del Bagno. They talked about what a great pilot he was, but they also talked about what a great mentor he was and what a good dude Major Del Bagno was, and that is what he wanted to be recognized as and remembered as.

So America lost one of its finest pilots in his passing.

May God bless him and may he rest in peace.

□ 1215

HONORING THE LIFE OF RACHAEL PARKER

(Mr. KIHUEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIHUEN. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to remember the life of Rachael Parker. Rachael attended the Route 51 festival in Las Vegas on October 1.

Rachael worked as a record technician at the Manhattan Beach Police Department for 10 years. She was known as the "matron" of the police department's front desk.

Rachael always treated people the same, no matter their circumstances. She loved her family, and had a passion for animals. She rescued two dogs, that she loved more than anything else.

Rachael always went out of her way to help those in need. Everyone knew her and remembers her as being a gifted, kindhearted, and caring woman.

I would like to extend my condolences to Rachael Parker's family and friends. Please know that the city of Las Vegas, the State of Nevada, and the whole country grieve with you.

RECOGNIZING THE CHATHAM-SAVANNAH COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM

(Mr. CARTER of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Chatham-Savannah Counter Narcotics Team, also known as CNT.

In 2017, CNT and the DEA identified a drug distribution group operating throughout Chatham County, and learned that a large drug transaction was to take place. With this knowledge, CNT conducted drug operations at various hotels, covering several local jurisdictions.

On March 25, 2018, CNT seized 25 kilograms, or 55 pounds of cocaine, and made six arrests, which is the largest single cocaine seizure in CNT's history. The confiscated cocaine had an estimated street value of \$4 million.

Cocaine is a highly addictive and mind-altering drug that poisons communities and tears families apart. I applaud CNT's groundbreaking work, which makes the entire Savannah community a better place to live.

THE HOUSE MAJORITY'S GREAT INJUSTICE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, the majority in this House has just exacted a great injustice. The unwarranted, unjust, forced resignation of a sworn officer of this United States House, the House Chaplain, Patrick Conroy, is a

complete, complete violation of justice. It is also a complete violation of the rules of this House and the 229-year precedents of this House.

As well, Speaker PAUL RYAN's unilateral decision to remove the House Chaplain, who is elected by the entire membership of this House, is simply wrong. The Chaplain deserves just and fair treatment by every Member of this body that would attend to any Member who is subjected to such treatment or any citizen in our country who appears before the law. Every life in our Nation should matter.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The time of the gentlewoman has expired.

Ms. KAPTUR. And the lives and reputations of the officers of this House should matter. Our heads should hang low today—

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman is no longer recognized.

Ms. KAPTUR. * * *

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, Father Conroy has served this institute honorably for the past seven years. He is only one of two Roman Catholic clerics ever to have served as pastor for the U.S. House of Representatives since the founding of our Republic 229 years ago, of 60 who have served. As an elected officer of this House, the Chaplain serves as its spiritual leader, abiding the heavy weight that the Chaplain bears for hundreds of Members, their families, hundreds more staff members, visitors and others who seek guidance and help. From what is trickling out in the media, this political crucifixion of Father Conway was executed following a visit from Speaker Paul Ryan's Chief of Staff in which Fr. Conway's resignation was demanded. Fr. Conroy complied. He transmitted a letter of resignation under coercion on April 15. On April 16, under cover of convoluted parliamentary procedure, with the vast membership of this institution unnoticed and unaware, Speaker Ryan requested ascension from the entire body. But who in this House even knew procedurally what was occurring? There was no notice. There was no prior House official proceeding to hear this matter. There was no one to object as no Member other than the Speaker and his inner circle knew what the Speaker was demanding.

In such an important matter of a human being's life and reputation, what happened to our House Rules? What happened to regular order? This forced resignation is without cause. It is unprecedented. It is wrong. It is simply a unilateral decision and abuse of power by the Speaker who himself will soon leave Congress. He should hang his head. The Speaker solely delivered an honorable man up for political crucifixion without hearing or trial.

Justice in such a consequential action demands the full attention and engagement of this entire House. It is not the prerogative of a single individual, no matter how powerful that individual may feel he is. The Speaker's action is a violation of the fundamental Rules of this House. It cannot stand the light of scrutiny. This consequential decision about a human being's life was summarily imposed with no justice, no consultation, and importantly a complete abdication of our House Rules and Constitutional precedents. It must be overturned. Justice and regular order must return to this House.